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ZNR UUUUU ZZH (CCY AD109F61 WSC3362-695)
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FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9912
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY 0001
RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY 0012
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0199
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY

UNCLAS DHAKA 000064

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

C O R R E C T E D COPY CAPTION
HAITI EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE, AND USAID/W FOR DCHA/OFDA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [KFLO](#) [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [AMGT](#) [HA](#) [BG](#)
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH OFFERS TO SEND A MEDICAL
TEAM TO HAITI

REF: STATE 0428

¶1. (SBU) In a meeting with the Defense Attach on January 18, the Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division declared that the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) wished to send a medical team of 30 to assist in relief efforts in Haiti. It will be led by an Army Colonel and comprised of 10 doctors and 20 paramedics and medical specialists. The team is available to leave immediately via commercial air.

¶2. (SBU) The GOB is still examining different options for their travel to Haiti and has ruled out the possibility of self-deploying via C-130 military aircraft. As a result, they will no longer be able to carry the approximately six tons of medicines and other medical supplies that they had initially hoped to take. They plan to send their team via commercial air and have asked Post to coordinate their arrival and integration into the relief effort as soon as possible. We have agreed to expedite any visas should the team need to travel through the U.S.

¶3. (SBU) We have also been discussing with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the lead agency on foreign disaster relief assistance, additional possible contributions to the relief effort in Haiti. We will report back on this should anything become available. We strongly urge consideration of this generous offer of medical assistance and would appreciate knowing if any provisions exist to help facilitate the team's travel to Haiti. Bangladesh is keenly aware of the support provided by the international community (led by the U.S.) following past natural disasters here and wants to contribute to Haiti in its time of need. For the Bangladesh Army, past experience in Peacekeeping Operations in Haiti provides a further impetus to contributing to relief efforts.
MORIARTY